



September
2020

West Des Moines eNewsletter

Residents work with the City to get the job done!

On the afternoon of August 10, residents in many parts of Iowa were faced with significant tree damage caused by a derecho that brought high winds and destruction, causing thousands of residents and businesses to lose power.

After thoroughly assessing the damage, WDM Public Services crews were charged with picking up debris residents hauled to the curb in compliance with guidelines issued by the City. The collection was scheduled a week after the storm to allow residents enough time to prepare tree limbs for collection.

[The City has a policy regarding the collection of storm debris](#) to make sure decisions are based on the amount and severity of damage. Staff also have to determine how collection efforts would impact the City's ability to receive federal disaster funds following a "declared" event.

Public Services crews want to thank residents for their support as they worked 12-hour shifts to clean up our neighborhoods!



Operations Specialist Tim Schneider gives an enthusiastic thumbs up from his truck during the City's debris pickup!



Labor Day reminders: City Hall and most City offices will be closed on **Monday, September 7**, for the holiday. Garbage collection will be delayed one day for the rest of the week, with Friday's collection occurring on Saturday.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday!

Connect with us! www.wdm.iowa.gov



WDM Library to close for next phase of renovation

The West Des Moines Public Library will be closed from **Monday, August 31, through Wednesday, September 9**, reopening on Thursday, September 10. During that nine-day period, contractors will complete minor items from earlier work and move on to some bigger projects in what is the third phase of a four-phase renovation.

According to Library Director Darryl Eschete, it won't be possible to stay open while contractors work.

"The lobby floor will be stripped and re-surfaced, the circulation area will be completely repainted and re-carpeted and a new desk will be installed," Eschete said. "And there will also be some very noisy and dusty work being done to the first-floor concrete slab."

Due to the disruption, the library will not be offering curbside services.

After the most disruptive work is done during the closure, contractors will continue with phase three for two months, though the work should be more out-of-the way and quieter.

In early November, the library will close again to switch over to the fourth and final phase of the

renovation, during which the former library cafe on the first floor will be demolished and re-made into a dedicated teen area.

The current West Des Moines Public Library building opened in 1996 as a space shared by the Library and West Des Moines City Government. This arrangement continued until 2002, when the current City Hall at 4200 Mills Civic was completed.



The library renovation, which started in October of 2019, is the first major

overhaul of the building since City offices left, and the plans include new public service desks, work spaces and cubicles for staff. Fresh carpet and paint throughout the building is also part of the plan.

Funding for the estimated \$3 million project comes from both public and private sources, including local option sales tax money and a donation of just over \$350,000 from the West Des Moines Public Library Friends Foundation.

Contractors and city engineers expect to complete the project in early spring of 2021.

Did you know the West Des Moines Public Library is now producing an eNewsletter to keep patrons informed about library services and programs?

[You can read the newsletter on their website](#) or [subscribe to it by providing your email!](#)



Illumifest RevAMPed

Jamie Hurd hitheater
opening week

September 17, 19 and 26
West Des Moines City / School Campus
4200 Mills Civic Parkway

The WDM Parks and Recreation Department is committed to offering opportunities for everyday enjoyment in safe settings.

For that reason, Illumifest is now **Illumifest RevAMPed**, a 3-evening celebration!

To stay up-to-date with the latest Illumifest RevAMPed events,
visit our website, and please keep in mind that events may change
due to weather or an increase in virus activity in our area.

Hopefully, we'll be able to have a
FREE Fireworks Display
sponsored by Sammons Financial
on Saturday, September 19!



Activities will have monitored waiting lines to ensure social distancing is followed.

7-foot diameter circles will be painted on the amphitheater lawn.

Pre-register to guarantee a circle for your group.

Each circle will seat up to the equivalent of 4 adults.

Face coverings are strongly recommended.

Need to dispose of a large item?

Whether you're cleaning out your house or making room for that new appliance or couch, sometimes you just need to get rid of things that don't fit in your cart.

Anything that doesn't fit in your garbage cart needs an extra trash or large item sticker. Think of items like an extra bag (<30 lbs.), an appliance, furniture, large toy, etc.

You can still get rid of these items curbside by making sure you have the correct number of stickers. The number of stickers depends on the size and weight of the item.

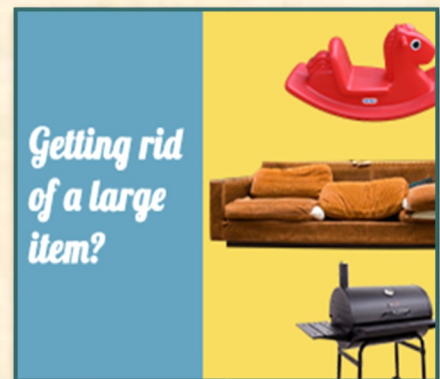
Here are some common examples:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ◆ Extra bag or box of trash (<30 lbs.) | One \$1 extra trash sticker |
| ◆ Appliance | Seven \$5 large item stickers |
| ◆ Furniture | One \$5 large item sticker |
| ◆ Large toy | One \$5 large item sticker |

Once you have the stickers, make sure to have the item at your curb for collection on your normal garbage collection day. The only exception is an appliance. Those are picked up on certain days and require a quick call to schedule.

If you don't want to purchase stickers and would rather self-haul, most of these items can be taken to either the Metro Park East Landfill or the 2nd Saturday residential trash drop-off at the Metro Northwest Transfer Station in Grimes (some exclusions apply).

For more information on large and extra item disposal, visit www.WherItShouldGo.com/largeitem or call Metro Waste Authority at (515) 244-0021.



Parks and Recreation enthusiasts are invited to join the Friends of WDM Parks and Recreation, a new group that has been formed to support the development and enhancement of public parks, facilities and recreation programs in West Des Moines!

To become a member or make a donation to the group's first fundraising project (the Raccoon River Pedestrian Bridge), visit the Friends website at www.wdm.iowa.gov/FriendsofWDMPR.



**Respond to the 2020 Census
today to help your community
for the next 10 years.**

It's easy to respond online, by phone, or by mail. When everyone is counted, our communities have the opportunity to get the funding they need for things like health care, education, emergency services, and more.

For more information, visit:
2020CENSUS.GOV

**Llena el Censo del 2020 hoy
y ayuda a tu comunidad
durante los próximos 10 años.**

Responder es fácil y lo puedes hacer por internet, por teléfono o por correo. Cuando todas las personas son contadas, nuestras comunidades tienen la oportunidad de recibir los fondos que necesitan para cosas como servicios de salud, educación, servicios de emergencia y más.

Para más información visita:
2020CENSUS.GOV/es

**Shape
your future
START HERE >**

**United States®
Census
2020**

2020 Solid Waste Events for WDM Residents

September 12	Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-off * 8 a.m. — 12:00 (noon), West Des Moines Public Services, 560 S. 16th Street <u>For details about items that will be accepted, please visit our website.</u>
November 28	Yard Waste Pickup Ends
Dec. 28, 2020 — Jan. 8, 2021	Winter Yard Waste & Christmas Tree Collection

*Paper shredding services will not be provided by the City due to the variety of privately sponsored paper shredding events in our area throughout the year.

Yard Waste events are available to all WDM residents who are eligible for solid waste collection.

For Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Options, [visit Metro Waste Authority's website.](#)

For more information, [visit www.wdm.iowa.gov](http://www.wdm.iowa.gov) or call WDM Public Services at 222-3480.

School Crossing Safety



Although “back-to-school” may look different this year, it’s still important to remember the responsibility we all have in keeping our kids safe on their way to and from school!

[Read more about how you can help keep our kiddos safe.](#)

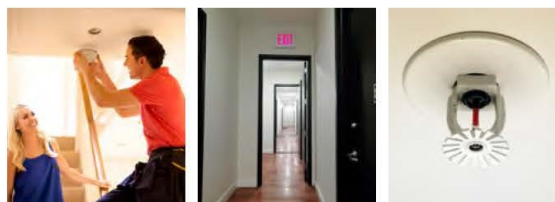
Fire Safe College Housing



What you need to look for.

Here are some good questions for college students and parents to ask before moving into a dormitory or signing an apartment lease.

- ✓ Are there working smoke alarms in each bedroom, outside of sleeping areas, and on each level of the building?
- ✓ Are there at least two ways out of each room and the building?
- ✓ Do the upper levels of the building have at least two sets of stairs inside and/or a fire escape?
- ✓ Are there exit signs in the hallways to show the way out?
- ✓ Are there enough electrical outlets for all appliances, computers, printers and electronics — without using an extension cord?
- ✓ Has the building's heating system been inspected recently (in the last year)?
- ✓ Does the building have a sprinkler system?
- ✓ Does the building have a fire alarm system?
- ✓ Does the sprinkler or fire alarm system send a signal to the local fire department and/or campus security?
- ✓ Is the building address clearly posted so emergency services can find it quickly if they need to?



For more information and free resources, visit
www.usfa.fema.gov



Roofing shingles: A new dust control method

As our landfills fill up with unwanted waste, there have been many ideas about how to utilize some of these waste products. One such product is roofing shingles.

For many years, shingles have been ground up and used in asphalt to build roads, but their use is limited and the stockpiles continue to grow.

Many agencies have been mixing shingles into their gravel roads for dust control, and late last summer, Public Services began experimenting with using ground shingles for dust control on our gravel roads.

The test area is the Raccoon River Park access road where shingles were added to the east half of the roadway for comparison to the untreated, west half. This stretch of gravel serves hundreds of cars and large trucks every day and is a very high-maintenance roadway for both dust control and potholes.



The initial addition of shingles to the roadway was a success. For several weeks, the surface remained smooth and dust free.

This spring, more shingles mixed with rock were added to the entire length of the roadway. Again, the road surface held up well despite lots of traffic and several heavy rains. After nearly two months since shingles were added to the roadway, it is just now showing signs of potholes and the dust is very low.

One of the main advantages to using a shingles mix is that potholes in the road surface can be fixed with the City's road grader, and the result is a good, dust-free surface again.

The City plans to continue adding ground shingles to other gravel roads so that we can do our part to mitigate not only dust problems, but also limit the waste products that end up in the landfill.



Construction Updates



If you would like to learn more about Engineering and Parks and Recreation projects under construction, just visit our [website](#). You can also view drone footage of construction projects by [visiting Engineering Services YouTube Channel!](#)